

HealthCare for All WNC is an Asheville, N.C. group organizing for **fundamental health care reform**. We advocate a single-payer national health program – specifically HR 1384 – that would provide universal coverage, comprehensive benefits, and zero cost sharing.

As a founding mother of HealthCare for All WNC and a retired geriatrician, I have seen firsthand how patients waited for the "Golden Ticket" of Medicare to seek medical care that they had could not afford previously. This resulted in delayed diagnoses and treatments, often with disastrous results. Ellen Kaczmarek, MD Asheville, NC

MEDICAL REPORT CARD

- 80 million people are uninsured or underinsured, unable to get needed care due to cost.
- We have some of the worst health outcomes of developed countries, especially in life expectancy, infant mortality rate, and maternal death rate.
- According to a recent poll, a majority of Americans cited paying for healthcare as their number one concern. 2/3 of personal bankruptcies are related to healthcare costs.

BUSINESS CONCERNS

- Employer-based insurance stifles American business, hurting their bottom line and putting them at a competitive disadvantage with companies in other countries with publicly funded healthcare.
- Employer-based healthcare can also stifle the entrepreneurial spirit and innovation, forcing people to stay in dead-end jobs just to hold on to their insurance.
- People forego or delay care, resulting in a sicker, less productive population.

MAKING ECONOMIC SENSE

- Savings come from cutting out the massive bureaucracy that comes from an inefficient multi-payer system that also has to worry about shareholders including CEOs paid tens of millions of dollars at every company.
- The federal government will represent over 325 million people in negotiations, which means they are in a powerful position to negotiate fair prices for drugs, devices, and procedures.
- Lays out a vision for a publicly financed and privately delivered healthcare system that covers all our people, expands the services covered & eliminates financial barriers to care while controlling costs & saving our country money.
- For seniors, it adds dental, vision, hearing, and long-term care with no more ever-increasing premiums, deductibles, co-pays, or coinsurance.
- Commits funds for the first 5 years to help people made redundant by eliminating insurance waste for retraining, severance, education, and transition

